U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY SUBMITS HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT PERMIT RENEWAL APPLICATION

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Division of Solid Waste Management (DSWM) received an application from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to renew the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) hazardous waste management permit TNHW-145. ORNL (EPA ID TN1890090003) is located in Roane County at 1 Bethel Valley Road, Oak Ridge, TN 37831. There are two co-operators that manage the hazardous waste at ORNL: URS | CH2M Oak Ridge LLC (UCOR) and North Wind Solutions LLC (NWSol).

The current permit allows the facility to store and treat hazardous and mixed wastes generated by DOE and its contractors prior to on- or off-site treatment and disposal. The eight storage units managed by UCOR are: Buildings 7855, 7860A, 7883, 7572, 7574, 7879, 7831F, and Portable Unit 1. The total storage capacity is 678,446 gallons.

The eight storage areas managed by NWSol at the TRU Waste Processing Centre (TWPC) are: Contact Handled Staging Area, Waste Processing Building (first and second floors,) Drum Aging Criteria, Container Storage Area, Contact Handled Marshalling Building, Drum Venting Building, and Multi-Purpose Building. The total storage capacity is 408,760 gallons. The eight treatment processes performed at TWPC are: Macroencapsulation (9,350 gals/day), Amalgamation (10 lbs/hour), Solidification/Stabilization (1,200 gals/day) of liquids and 55 gals/day of solids), Groundwater Absorption (825 gals/day), Size Reduction (2,255 gals/day), Groundwater Filtration (5,000 gals/year), Neutralization (5 gals/day), and Oxidation/Deactivation (1 kg/day).

ORNL has applied to continue operation of the current storage and treatment units. There will be no increase in the storage and treatment capacities.

Solid waste management units (SWMUs) and Areas of Concern (AOCs) at the Oak Ridge Reservation, including previous or ongoing investigations or corrective actions for all releases of hazardous wastes or hazardous constituents, are addressed separately in DOE's site-wide corrective action permit, TNHW-164, issued on September 15, 2015. The conditions of TNHW-164 require that any future and existing SWMUs or AOCs be evaluated for potential releases and remediation, as necessary.

The current permit, TNHW-145, was issued on February 3, 2010 and effective for ten (10) years. Because the facility submitted their Part B renewal application at least 180 days before the current permit was set to expire, Tennessee Hazardous Waste Management Regulations allow the facility to continue to operate under the current permit until another permit is issued or denied. If renewed, the permit will allow the facility to continue to operate and maintain the hazardous waste for an additional ten years.

Prior to submitting their Part B application on July 24, 2019, the facility held a Pre-Application Public Meeting on May 28, 2019 with a public notice issued on April 10, 2019, as required by Tennessee Rule 0400-12-01-.07(1)(m). Oral comments were received from the public during the meeting, and the permittee addressed the comments at that time. No written comments were received. The public will have another opportunity to comment when DSWM completes its review of the application.

As set forth in the Regulations, a complete permit application, consisting of a Part A and a Part B, must include certain text, drawings, and other information adequate to demonstrate that the facility will comply with the various technical and administrative standards applicable to such a facility. Evaluation of the renewal application involves an in-depth review of the application materials by DSWM staff and subsequent correspondence between DSWM and the facility identifying and correcting any deficiencies in the submitted information.

Once it determines the application is complete, DSWM will make a tentative decision to either grant or deny the permit and issue either a draft permit or a notice of intent to deny the permit. Public Notice will be given of this tentative decision, and the public will have at least 45 days to submit written comments on the draft permit/proposed action. A public hearing, if requested, may also be held to receive public comments within this public comment period. After considering the public comments received and making any appropriate revisions, the DSWM director will issue a final permit decision to either issue a final permit or terminate the existing permit. A Response to Comments will also be issued at that time.

Electronic copies of the application are available online at tn.gov/environment/notices/ornl145 and at the DSWM Central Office on the 14th Floor of the Tennessee Tower, 312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, Nashville, TN 37243 (615-532-0780). Paper copies are available for review at Oak Ridge Public Library, Civic Center, 1401 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, TN (865-482-8455); at DSWM's Knoxville Field Office, 3711 Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville, TN 37921 (865-594-6035); DOE Information Center, 475 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, TN (865-576-0885); and TDEC DOE Oversight Division Office, 761 Emory Valley Road, Oak Ridge, TN (865-481-0995).

Further information on this matter may be obtained by contacting Ms. Cheryl Ann Sayler; CDM Smith I UCOR; P.O. Box 4699, MS7420; Oak Ridge, TN 37831 (865-963-4334). Information, opinions, and inquiries may be directed to Ms. Dilraj Mokha in DSWM's Central Office throughout the permit review process: contact her at the TN Tower, 312 Rosa L. Parks Ave, 14th Floor, Nashville, TN 37243, call 615-532-0821, fax 615-532-0938, or email Dilraj.Mokha@tn.gov.

If it is hard for you to read, speak, or understand English, TDEC may be able to provide translation or interpretation services free of charge. Please contact Mary Evans at 615-532-0798 for more information.

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EEO/AA/ADAAA inquiries or complaints may be directed to the ADAAA Coordinator, TDEC HR Division, at 615-532-0200. Hearing impaired callers may use the Tennessee Relay Service (800-848-0298).

If you would like to receive notices like this directly, contact the Public Participation Officer in DSWM's Central Office for a Mailing List Request form. Email Solid.Waste@tn.gov or call 615-532-0788.

NOTICE ISSUED: September 4, 2019

